2. Transport Development Finance Corporations should be established in each State to provide funds for replacement augmentation and expansion of bus services of STUs. This Corporation should provide loans at reasonable rates of interest.

3. Motor Transport Workers Act, Road Transport Corporations Act, Motor Vehicles Act, Industrial Disputes Act, etc. should be corrected by legislative amendments so as to enable them to be modern in outlook for achieving greater efficiency and higher productivity in STUs.

4. State Government should earmark a fixed percentage of Road Taxes collected so as to adequately finance construction of new roads and to maintain and improve the existing roads. Better roads reduces the cost of operation of STU's.

5. State Governments should fully reimburse the costs incurred by STUs on concessional fares to students, physically handicapped, freedom fighters, journalists, etc. which are granted more as a social policy.

6. The Central Government should restore capital contribution to Road Transport Corporations honouring the provisions of RTC's Act without imposing conditions like profitability etc.

7. Recognising the importance of Urban Transport which counstifutes 30% of the total Bus Transport and the sensitive nature of the many issues involved the Ministry of Urban De-velpoment should be asked to play a more important and vibrant role in encouraging and financing mass rapid transport systems like light rail transit system, circular railway, bus lanes etc.

8. For meeting the cost towards computerisations depots, inventory ticket issue etc. financial assistance should be given from Government of India or Planning Commission.

9. Financial institutions like IDBI, LIC, Banks should give loans liberally and at lower rate of interest to STUs recognising that the transport is a core sector like Electricity.

10. Chassis manufacturers and Tyre manufacturers should not be allowed to increase their prices unless prior consultation is held with ASRTU/ representative of STUs giving proper justification for the increases sought.

11. The guidelines issued recently by the Planning Commission in which it has been stated that State Transport *Undertakings should make room for* private operators except in places where private operators may not come and that there shall be no expansion of SRTUs : should be immediately withdraw in public interest.

(d) and (e) The recommendations have been received only on 24-4-1993 and all of these require consultation with the State Governments/other Central Ministries, They are under consideration of the Government.

Project for combating blindness in the country

*48. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Rs. 550 crore project for boosting eye care lenses and combating blindness in the country is being considered with the assistance of the World Bank; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The proposed Project which is under consideration of the World Bank seeks to increase the number of sight restoring operations in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Orissa through optimal utilisation and augmentation of ophthalmic infrastructure and upgradation of ophthalmic skill* to perform high quality

surgery. During the project period it is also envisaged that facilities would be upgraded in Medical Colleges and District Hospitals to enable intra-ocular lens iiB-plant surgery to be performed selectively on patients who would benefit from this process.

Setting up of Oil refinery at Paradip in Orissa

*49. SHRI ASHIS SEN :

SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whe'her Government have decided to set up an oil refinery at Pardip in Orissa;

(b) if so, by when is it likely to corpe up; and

(c) what type of crude would be processed in this oil refinery ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) Government have decided, in principle, to set up a 6 MMTPA refinery as joint venture in Eastern India. Letter of Intent has also been issued to M/s. Ashok Leyland-GOTCO on 14-8-1992 for setting up a refinery of *6* MMTPA capacity in Paradip in Orissa.

(b) The approximate time required for putting up a refinery is between 48 months to 60 months from the date of approval by the Government.

(c) As per tentative plans, imported crude would be processed in this refinery.

Implementation of family planning programmes

*50. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA :

SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have been sending delegations to countries like China, Indonesia etc. to study the success of the family planning programmes in these countries;

(b) if so, the details of such delegations sent to these countries and also of the findings of these study tours and the amount spent by the Government on these delegations;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Statee like Kerala and Tamil Nadu have been successfully implementing the family planing programmes and the birth rate in these States have already fallen much below the all-India target for the year 2000; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken to study the experience of these States and adopt it in other States instead of spending crores of rupees on foreign tours ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (d) During the last three years the following delegations were sent abroad to study the family planning programme :

In 1990-91 three delegations visited :	(i) China (ii) Phillipines and Thailand (iii) Egypt and Tunisia
In 1991-92 one delegation visited :	(i) China, Thailand and Singapore
In 1992-93 one delegation visited :	(i) Thailand